PATENT Attorney Docket No. HOOV 120 IN THE UNITED STATE AND TRADEMARK OFFICE In Re Application of: I hereby certify that this correspondence) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an Michael D. Hooven envelope addressed to: Serial No.: 10/015,476 Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 on: Filed: December 13, 2001 March 18, 2002 on Examiner: Christine A. Barglik Art Unit: 3739 March 18, 2002 Date: For: SUB-XYPHOID METHOD FOR ABLATING CARDIAC TISSUE Commissioner for Patents

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Washington, D.C.

20231

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment in the above - - - identified patent application prior to substantive examination.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph 1 with the following paragraph:

-- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a division of application Serial No. [0001] 10/038,506, filed November 9, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 10/032,378, filed October 26, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/844,225,